

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR AUGUST 1947

[The table herewith contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list of tornadoes will appear in the United States Yearbook]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Flathead Co., near Somers and Bigford, Mont.	1	3:30 p. m.	13-10		\$1,000,000	Severe hail	Stones ¼-1-inch in diameter. Storm moved from west to east, destroying from 20-60 percent of crops, including peas, wheat, barley, and hay. Length of path, 15 miles.
Douglas, Wyo.	1	P. m.		1	0	Thunderstorm	Man killed by lightning about 30 miles east of Douglas.
Sheridan Co., Nebr.	1	11:30 p. m.	10		17,000	Thunderstorm with wind squall.	From near Gordon to 10 miles west. Circus tent torn down, with circus losses of about \$15,000. Airplanes on municipal field damaged, about \$2,000.
Ottertail, Wadena and Cass Cos., Minn.	2	1:40 a. m.	15		50,000	Hail	Heavy hail that accompanied a severe thunderstorm caused much damage to growing crops and property. Much poultry perished.
Jessamine and Woodford Cos., Ky.	2	4:30-5 p. m.	10		375,000	Wind	No remarks.
Quincy, Mich.	2	5-6 p. m.	880		40,000	High winds, rain and hail.	Blew down buildings, a hangar, power and telephone lines. Corn and other crops damaged.
Gibson Station, Va.	2	8-9:30 p. m.	10		(?)	Hail, tornadic wind.	\$13,800 total damage for storms of 2d, 4th, 7th. Damage to tobacco, corn, truck crops, timber; 3 buildings damaged; cow, calf, and chickens killed.
Columbia, S. C.	2	9:30 p. m.			1,500	Lightning	2 fires caused damage, mostly to cotton at the Pacific Mills.
West Columbia, S. C.	2	9:30 p. m.		1		Lightning	No remarks.
Loudoun Co., Va.	3-4	11:30 p. m.-1 a. m.				Rain	Washed out bridge and 2 fills of highway between Mountville and Oatlands.
Webster, W. Va.	3	P. m.				Heavy hail	Extensive damage to gardens.
Hinton, W. Va.	3	P. m.				Severe electrical.	Trees blown across, telephone wires disrupted service. Lightning disrupted power service for 4 hours.
Smyth Co., Va.	4	During night				Rain	In Marion and Rye Valley areas, heavy damage to roads; several bridges washed out; bottomland crops and contents of several homes and business places damaged.
Wannaska, Minn., and vicinity.	4	8 a. m.	12		10,000	Hail	Heavy hail caused considerable damage to growing crops.
Gibson Station, Va.	4	2-4 p. m.	10		(?)	Hail	
Toole Co., near Dunkirk, Mont.	4	Evening				Moderate hail.	Storm lasted 15 minutes, with stones size of marbles. Crop loss 60-90 percent, mainly to wheat. Storm from southwest.
Niopolis Church Community, Bedford Co., Va.	4	9:30-10 p. m.	12	0		Tornado	Attended by heavy hail as large as golf balls; roofs torn from houses and barns; trees twisted and uprooted; corn beaten down; tobacco stalks chopped off.
Brown's Dan Creek, Va.	4	11-11:10 p. m.	12		5,000	Hail, wind	Damage to tobacco.
Fergus Co., northeast of Denton, Mont.	5	3-4 p. m.	14-10		200,000	Severe hail	Storm moved from southwest. Heavy damage to wheat. Stones size of hens' eggs. Storm lasted 30 minutes and was 25 to 35 miles long.
Langdon, N. Dak.	5	5-7 a. m.			45,000	Heavy wind, light hail.	Wind blew down 4 hangars, wrecked 10 planes.
Northeastern Sheridan Co., Mont.	5	5-5:20 p. m.	880		9,500	Moderate hail, wind	Storm moved 6 miles in Montana, 14 miles in North Dakota. Considerable damage to wheat from hail. Wind caused \$500 damage to property, \$4,000 to crops. Hail caused \$5,000 damage.
Gray Co., Kans.	5	5:45 p. m.	17		5,200	High wind	Winds of tornadic violence 5 miles southwest of Cimarron, but no actual funnel cloud observed. Outbuildings destroyed; barns unroofed; great number of trees blown down.
Columbia, S. C., 9 miles east.	5	Afternoon			3,000	Lightning	Garage containing machinery and oil burned.
Rome, Ga.	5	Afternoon			12,000	Wind	Several buildings damaged; large number of trees blown down; power and telephone services disrupted.
Northeastern Fergus Co., Mont.	5	Afternoon				Severe hail	From east, path 60 miles; damage to wheat.
Northern Prairie Co., Mont.	5	7-7:12 p. m.	10		375,000	Heavy hail	Storm moved from west; path 30 miles long. Damage to small grains and feed crops.
Southwestern Garfield Co., Mont.	5	7-7:30 p. m.	10-12			Heavy hail	Path 100 miles long. Hail ¼-¾ inch in diameter did considerable damage to grain and alfalfa. Heavy rain accompanied storm.
Southern Dawson Co., Mont.	5	7:30-8 p. m.	15		1,500,000	Moderate to heavy hail, rain.	Storm moved from west; path 50 miles long. Stones size of peas did severe damage to small grains, corn, sugar beets, and potatoes. Windows broken. Roads washed out.
Southern McCone Co., Mont.	5	8-8:15 p. m.	14			Moderate to heavy hail.	Storm moved from west-northwest; path 18 miles long. Damage severe to grain crops caused by stones size of hens' eggs. Some damage to buildings.
Wibaux Co., Mont.	5	8:15-8:45 p. m.	13		100,000	Heavy hail	Stones ½ inch in diameter; moved from northwest; path 12 miles long.
Hill Co., near Box Elder, Mont.	5		12		1,000	Light hail	Considerable damage to wheat, oats, corn, and barley.
Southeastern Rosebud Co., Mont.	6	3 a. m.	12			Moderate hail	Storm moved from southwest; path 6 miles long. Little damage from stones, ½ inch in diameter, except to wheat. Storm lasted 5 minutes.
Madison Co., Ala., Huntsville to Plevna.	6	3:30-4:10 p. m.			100,000	Hail	Storm from northwest; considerable damage to barley and wheat.
Central Fallon Co., Mont.	6	4:30-4:40 p. m.	1-2		72,000	Moderate hail, wind.	Stones size of marbles to a little larger. Damage to corn and cotton.
Rock, Mich.	6	6:15-6:45 p. m.			12,000	Hail, high wind, rain, lightning.	\$50,000 hail damage. Storm moved from west; path 25 miles long with stones ¼ to ½ inch in diameter; damage to wheat, flax, and barley, \$22,000. Wind damage: \$2,000 to property, \$20,000 to crops.
Salina, Co., Kans.	6	Evening				Wind, hail	Hail averaged ½ inch, with largest size ¾ inch. Barn destroyed by lightning; damage, \$8,000.
Jay Co., Ind.	6	7:15 p. m.	13		10,000	Wind, hail	Storm hit in Assaria neighborhood 8 miles south of Salina. Lightning destroyed a barn. Roofs torn from barns; cattle sheds blown from foundations; crops destroyed by hail.
Palo Verde Valley, Calif.	6-9	Intermittent			127,000	Thunderstorms	Crops, trees, buildings damaged; wires down.
Gibson Station, Va.	7	3-4:30 p. m.	10		(?)	Hail	Alfalfa hay, seed, and light airplanes damaged. Damage by wind 75 percent, by rain, 25 percent. Some damage by lightning to power and telephone lines.
West-central Fergus Co., Mont.	7	4:07-4:12 p. m.	15			Light hail	Moved from northwest; path 10 miles long. Up to 75 percent damage reported, mainly to wheat.
Keeling, Va.	7	Late afternoon			25,000	Hail	Damage to tobacco crop.
Mecca, Calif., and vicinity	8	2:40-6:10 p. m.				Thunderstorm	Heavy rain caused damage to canal spillway and roads estimated at \$75,000. Young vegetable plants injured and much topsoil lost.
Hand Co., S. Dak., north and east of Miller.	8	6-7 p. m.				High wind, lightning.	Spotted damage to property and crops in a 15-mile area.
Rockbridge Co., Va.	8	6 p. m.	880			Hail	Stones size of ice cubes; damage to corn, gardens, farm building roofs; severe washing to corn, fallowed fields.
Southern Hamden Co., Mass.	8	Late afternoon				Local flash flood.	6 inches of rain fell in 1½ hours, stalling traffic and blocking roads.
Bedford, Wyo.	8	Evening				Flash flood	Several thousand dollars' damage to buildings and crops. Some cattle, chickens, and sheep drowned.
Brawley, Calif.	8					Wind	Property and power lines damaged.
Niland, Calif., near	9	7:15 a. m.				Rain	Steel tower supporting power line washed out.
Needles, Calif., and vicinity	9	1-2:30 p. m.			1,000,000	Rain	About 500 feet of railroad tracks washed out. Ice plant flooded, covering machinery with soil. Several hundred feet of highway washed out.
Max, N. Dak., 8 miles northwest.	9	5 p. m.	100		30,000	High wind, heavy rain.	Possibly a tornado. A barn wrecked and several fields of grain flattened.
Cortland, N. Y., near	9				3,000	Hail	500 turkeys killed; hailstones size of walnuts.

See footnotes at end of table.

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR AUGUST 1947—Continued

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Liberty, Liberty Co., Tex.	10	3 p. m.	110			Wind, hail	Only slight damage by hail, mostly to pecan trees and utilities.
Houston, Harris Co., Tex.	10	4:30 p. m.	110			Wind	Several hundred thousand dollars' damage to airplanes and plate glass; considerable damage to trees and utility lines.
Rusk, Cherokee Co., Tex.	10	5:30 p. m.	600		\$2,000	Wind	Barns and small buildings damaged.
Gatesville, Coryell Co., Tex.	11	7 a. m.	100		4,000	Wind	Freight warehouse unroofed.
Central Liberty Co., Mont., northwest of Chester.	11	1-1:20 p. m.	12			Moderate hail	Path 20 miles long, from southwest; considerable damage, mainly to wheat.
Echo, Colo.	11	P. m.		1	15,000	Flash flood	Man killed when his truck crashed through a bridge.
North Sagunche, Colo.	11	P. m.			5,000	Flash flood	18 families evacuated.
Lower Milk River Valley in Roosevelt, Richland, & McCone Cos., Mont.	12	2-3 p. m.			1,000,000	Severe hail, rain	Storm followed the Milk and Missouri Rivers for about 150 miles. Damage 100 percent to wheat and other grain not harvested.
Denver, Colo.	12	2:30 p. m.			3,000	Lightning	Lightning fired a home.
East of Terry, Mont.	12	4-4:10 p. m.	13		40,000	Moderate hail, wind	Storm moved from northwest; path 6 miles long; stones $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter. Considerable damage to wheat and some damage to flax.
Southwest Dawson Co., Mont.	12	4-4:20 p. m.			5,000	Hail	Wind damage to crops, \$5,000.
Northeast McCone Co., Mont.	12	4 p. m.	12			Heavy hail, rain	Storm moved from west, covering entire county; but hail fell only in a narrow strip near Marsh. Stones size of marbles damaged wheat and gardens.
Fort Wayne, Ind.	14	3 p. m.			16,000	Wind	Stones size of marbles did considerable damage to grains and gardens.
Montgomery Co., Ohio	14					Thunderstorm	Storm moved from southwest; path 6 miles long.
Northern Franklin Co., Vt.	15	1-2 p. m., E. S. T.				Local flash flood	Wind 45 m. p. h., at Dayton Airport. Some local damage from high winds and severe lightning.
Piscataquis, Penobscot, and Aroostook Cos., Maine	15	2-4 p. m., E. S. T.			35,000	Heavy rains, lightning	West Franklin flooded; 5 bridges impassable; houses in center of town flooded to first-floor windowsills.
Eastern Middlesex and southern Essex Cos., Mass.	15	7-8 p. m.; 9:30-11 p. m., E. S. T.			10,000	Excessive rain, lightning, high wind	Several barns, considerable livestock destroyed; torrential rains damaged potato crop locally.
Northeast and northwest Chouteau Co., Mont.	16	6-6:30 p. m.	11½			Moderate hail	Lightning damaged many houses in the Woburn-Melrose-Stonham-Wakefield area.
Hill Co., north of Box Elder, Mont.	16	6:30-6:40 p. m.	12		5,000	Moderate hail	70-75 percent damage to mustard, flax, wheat, barley, and oats. Storm moved northeast, then east; stones size of marbles.
Fergus Co., east of Roy, Mont.	16	7:10-8:30 p. m.	12		1,600	Hailstorms	Stones size of peas; moved from southwest; path 20 miles long. Damage considerable, mainly to wheat.
Northern Hennepin Co., Minn.	17	P. m.			10,000	Thundersqualls	2 storms within 2 hours at the same place. First caused heavier damage of \$1,600, mainly to wheat.
Mishawaka, Ind.	19	4 p. m.			13,000	Wind	11 airplanes damaged at Victory Airport, Brooklyn Center. Some damage to trees. Some corn and small grains lodged.
Judith Basin Co., Mont.	19	5:30-5:45 p. m.	1,760		5,000	Hail	Airplanes damaged.
Lac Qui Parle Co., Minn.	19-20	9:30 p. m.-4 a. m.			30,500	Electrical	Considerable damage, principally to wheat. Storm moved from northeast; path 12 miles long. Stones size of beans.
Janesville, Wis.	20	1:22 p. m.			200,000	Thunderstorm	A house, several barns, and some strawstacks struck and destroyed by fire. Communication and power lines disrupted.
Mukwonago, Wis.	20	1:30-3:30 p. m.		1	45,000	Electrical	Lightning struck power plant; all equipment ruined. Several chimneys in city struck; little damage. Heavy rain flooded streets, basements. Wind blew down trees.
Western Oconto and eastern Shawano Cos., Wis.	20	4-11 p. m.			40,000	Electrical	Large, air-conditioned dairy barn struck and burned.
Northern Daniels Co., Mont.	20	5:45-6:15 p. m.	15	0	350,000	Tornado, wind, hail	4 barns and contents burned when struck by lightning.
Milton, Wis.	20	P. m.			30,000	Electrical	Tornado parallel to international boundary in northeast Montana.
Baltimore, Md.	20	P. m.				Lightning, wind	Storm moved from west-northwest. Crops and farm buildings destroyed. Hailstones 2 to 3¼ inches in diameter followed tornado.
Montgomery Co., Md.	20	P. m.				Lightning	Barn and contents burned when struck by lightning.
Geauga Co., Ohio	20					Thunderstorm	Lightning ripped off roofs, hit a gasoline tank, and streetcar. Many trees blown over.
Columbus, Ohio	21	5:45 p. m.		1	50,000	Thunderstorm	6 farm homes struck and 4 barns destroyed by lightning.
Central Valley Co., Mont.	21	7-7:30 p. m.	110		8,000	Hail, wind	6 cows killed by lightning.
South Hill, Va., near Gilead, Mich.	21	Night		1		Electrical	Broad St. bridge badly damaged by lightning. 4 persons injured, 1 fatally.
Judith Basin, east of Stanford, Mont.	22	Noon			10,000	Thunderstorm	Storm came from west covering area 10 by 10 miles; damage to small grains. Wind damage to barn and some smaller buildings.
Eastern Teton Co., Mont.	22	1-1:15 p. m.	1,760		5,000	Light hail	Tobacco barn destroyed.
	22	2:30-3 p. m.			200,000	Heavy hail	"Minor twister" reported. No injuries.
Pendroy Mont., and eastward into Teton Co.	22	2:45-3:05 p. m.	130		300,000	Heavy hail	Considerable damage to wheat; path 10 miles long. Hailstones size of beans.
Pondera Co. near Conrad, Mont.	22	3:05 p. m.	15-12		450,000	Heavy hail, wind	Storm moved from northwest and was spotty over entire county.
Shelbyville, Ky., and vicinity.	22	3:30 p. m.	15		2,000	Wind	Heavy hail $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter destroyed \$200,000 worth of wheat, barley, and mustard. Windows, neon signs, and roofs also damaged.
Fergus Co., Mont.	22	3:30-4 p. m.	14		50,000	Light hail, strong wind	Came from southwest. Considerable damage mainly to mustard.
Southwestern Toole Co., Mont.	22	4-5 p. m.	11-2		20,000	Hail, wind	Path 75 miles long. Hail $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter.
Pondera Co., Mont., central and eastern sections.	22	4:45-5:05 p. m.	16-10		1,000,000	Heavy hail	Storm originated just north of Augusta, running northeast to Marias River, splitting with part going south of Chester. Storm came from southwest; stones up to size of hens' eggs damaged wheat, flax, mustard, oats, and sugar beets; minor damage to turkeys, chickens, young calves, and sheep. Wind did some damage to buildings. Length of storm 25 miles.
Southwest part of Liberty Co., eastward into Hill Co., Mont.	22	5-5:20 p. m.	130		500,000	Severe hail, wind	Damage mostly to barns and small farm structures.
McCone Co., Mont., north of Circle.	22	6:30-6:50 p. m.	12			Hail, wind, heavy rain	Hail light; damage from strong wind from southwest, considerable to spring and winter wheat.
Powell Co. near Helmville, Mont.	22	Afternoon	120		8,000	Heavy hail	Moved eastward from Pondera County. Hail size of hens' eggs damaged crops.
Ravalli Co., Mont., south-east section.	22	9:45-10:05 a. m.	13-4			Hail	Storm moved from southwest; path 34 miles long. Damage mainly to mustard, winter wheat, barley, oats, and flax. Windows broken, shingles battered by stones as large as small eggs.
Western Chouteau Co., Mont.	22	Evening				Moderate hail	Storm from southwest. Considerable damage to wheat and barley. Storm from west-southwest.
Bass Lake, Ind.	24	2 p. m.			50,000	Wind, hail	Buildings, trees, crops, damaged; very large hail.
Northern and central S. C.	24-25	Afternoons		3	50,000	Thunderstorms	A series of thunderstorms, accompanied by severe lightning, high winds, heavy showers. Injured 1 person. Extensive damage by lightning, especially at Chester and Columbia on afternoon of 25th.
Montgomery and Boone Cos., Ind.	24	P. m.			10,000	Wind	Wires down; buildings and trees damaged.
Cheraw, Colo.	24	P. m.		1		Lightning	Woman struck by lightning, killed.

See footnotes at end of table.

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS FOR AUGUST 1947—Continued

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Reedy-Sandyville area, W. Va.	25	Afternoon				Severe electrical, heavy rain.	Small damage by lightning. Flash floods Middle and Left Reedy Creeks flooded roads, damaged gardens and crops, washed out some railroad track bed; washed post office building off foundation at LeRoy.
Worcester and Middlesex Cos., Mass.	26	1-3 p. m., E. S. T.			\$12,000	Torrential rain, lightning, high wind.	State House damaged and Doric Hall flooded; numerous traffic accidents. Rain and lightning damaged many buildings, mostly in Worcester County and Greater Boston area; several small boat accidents.
Hagerstown, Md.	26	P. m.		1		Thunderstorm	One person killed by lightning.
Western Port, Md.	26	P. m.				Heavy rains, strong winds.	Much damage to crops and gardens by floods. Highways flooded.
Baltimore, Md.	26	6:48 p. m.		1		Thunderstorm, heavy rains.	One person killed by lightning.
River Falls, Wis., vicinity of.	27	4:30-5 p. m.	1,760			Hail	Damage to corn and buckwheat over 20-mile path estimated at \$10 per acre of cropland.
Southern Oconto and southeastern Shawano Cos., Wis.	27-28	P. m. 27-a. m. 28th.			80,000	Electrical	Church and filled barn struck by lightning, burned.
Cedar Co., Nebr.	27	8:50 p. m.	15			Heavy hail	Path 5 miles long. Principal damage to corn. Some wind damage to buildings and stacked hay and straw. Damage, several thousand dollars.
Utica, Wis., vicinity of	28	P. m.	1,760			Hail	Tobacco and corn damaged over 4-mile path an estimated 50 percent.
Gays Mills, Wis., vicinity of.	28	P. m.				Hail	Tobacco and corn damaged.
Southeastern Muskegon, northern Ottawa, and Kent Cos., Mich.	29	1:15-1:35 p. m.	3,600		108,000	Hail	This storm or group of storms wrought considerable damage in Kent City, Sparta, and Casnovia. High winds and heavy hail averaging ½ to 2 inches in diameter caused severe damage to fruit, corn, and truck; some fields a total loss.
Lapeer, Mich.	30	12:30 p. m.			5,000	Hail, high winds, lightning.	Hailstones averaged ½ inch; largest, ¾ inch.
Hillsdale, Mich.	30	3:45 p. m.			100,000	Severe thunderstorms.	In Hillsdale, northeastern Branch, and southeastern Calhoun counties; buildings and trees blown over roads, power and telephone lines. Hillsdale and Quincy hardest hit. Crop damage by hail and wind greatest in Ransom and east end of Amboy townships.
Henry Co., Ohio	30	5 p. m.	14			Heavy hail	Hail covered an area 4 by 20 miles. Corn, soybeans, tomatoes, and sugarbeets severely damaged.
Seneca Co., Ohio	30	7:15 p. m.				Thunderstorm	Streets blocked and several homes damaged by falling trees. Power and telephone lines down. Basements and streets flooded.
Trumbull and Mahoning Cos., Ohio	30	Evening				Thunderstorm	Streets and basements flooded. Number of homes struck and barn destroyed by lightning.
Wyandot Co., Ohio	30	10:45 p. m.				Heavy hail	Details lacking.
Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn., and vicinity.	31	P. m.			10,000	Thundersqualls	In Bloomington Township, roof and wall of Hoff Manufacturing Plant torn away; trees uprooted; poles and wires down; automobiles damaged; and sailboats overturned.
Vicinity of Le Center, Minn.	31	8:25 p. m.	134	1	150,000	Tornado, hail	7 barns, 3 houses, many outbuildings, granaries, silos, windmills, farm machinery, and automobiles demolished; livestock and poultry killed; trees uprooted; poles, wires, and fences down; haystacks and grain shocks scattered; growing crops damaged. 8 persons injured. Path of storm about 30 miles long; moved from west. Light to heavy hail caused considerable damage to growing crops.

¹ Miles instead of yards.² Represents total damage from three storms, 2d, 4th, 7th.LATE¹ STORM REPORTS FOR JULY 1947

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Monona, Harrison, and Pottawattamie Cos., Iowa.	12	Early evening				Hail	Portions of 3 counties affected. In Monona County most severe damage confined to strip 6 to 7 miles long and 1 mile wide; crop damage estimated at \$30,000. In Harrison County, damage in strips, with extensive damage in the Logan and Missouri Valley vicinities. Thousands of acres affected, with total destruction in area of 12 square miles. Strong winds accompanied hail and accounted for 25 to 35 percent of total damage. Estimated damage to crops, over \$1,000,000. Numerous small farm buildings blown over or demolished.
Clinton, Clinton Co., Iowa.	27	Early morning			\$100,000	Wind	Gusts reported up to 75 m. p. h. ¼ of city without electrical power for a day. A radio tower blown over; 1,000 telephones put out of order; and many fallen trees disrupted traffic. On nearby farms corn flattened and many stalks broken off; small grain shattered. Storm moved eastward.

¹ CORRECTION: In the storm reports for June 1947, the storm which was recorded for Colusa, Sacramento, and Yola Cos., Calif., for June 11-12, should have read June 10-11.